

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 27706 221506Z

44

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 IOE-00

ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 DHA-02 DPW-01 /110 W
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P 221438Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5238

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION GENEVA

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, OCON, UNESCO

SUBJECT: UNESCO EXBD COMMITTEE HEARS COMPLAINTS ON
VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS

1. AFTER TWO DAYS DELIVERATIONS, EXBD COMMITTEE ON
CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON EDUCATION DECIDED TO
HEAR SPECIFIC COMPLAINTS AGAINST MEMBER STATES FOR
ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN FIELD OF UNESCO
COMPETENCE. IN ADDITION TO USUAL CHILE COMPLAINTS,
CHARGES HAVE ALSO BEEN BROUGHT AGAINST USSR, UKRAINE,
CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AND CUBA, THOUGH NUMBER OF CASES AND
SPECIFIC CHARGES ARE STILL UNCONFIRMED. COMMITTEE,
DECIDED TO REVIEW PROCEDURES BY WHICH CHARGES ARE
BROUGHT BEFORE COMMITTEE, AND SEEK WAYS TO HARMONIZE
PROCEDURES AND OBJECTIVES WITHIN LARGE COPE OF UN
SYSTEM

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PAGE 02 PARIS 27706 221506Z

2. AS EXPECTED, SOVIET AND CUBAN REPRESENTATIVES SOUGHT WAYS TO PUT OFF DELIBERATION OF SPECIFIC CHARGES. SOVIETS CALLED FOR ADDITIONAL WORK ON EXPERTS REPORT TO COMMITTEE, AND CHALLENGED COMMITTEE'S COMPETENCE TO HEAR CHARGES BROUGHT IN CONNECTION WITH SPECIFIC CASES (AS OPPOSED TO "SYSTEMATIC AND FLAGRANT VIOLATIONS"). AT ONE POINT BOTH SAID OUTRIGHT THEY WOULD REFUSE REPLY TO SPECIFIC ACCUSATIONS, CHARGING THAT COMPLAINTS AGAINST THEM RESULTED FROM ZIONIST AND IMPERIALIST CONSPIRACY. MOREOVER, SOVIET DELEGATE KANAEV THREATENED THERE WOULD BE SERIOUS REPERCUSSIONS FOR UNESCO IF COMMITTEE HEARD SPECIFIC COMPLAINTS AGAINST MEMBER STATES.

3. ALL OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS, INCLUDING UGANDA, TOOK EVEN HANDED VIEW THAT SAME PROCEDURE FOR BRINGING COMPLAINTS SHOULD APPLY TO ALL MEMBER STATES, AND THA CASES REFERRED TO COMMITTEE BY SECRETARIAT WOULD BE HEARD THIS SESSION. WEO'S ESPECIALLY POINTED OUT SERIOUS IMPACT ON PUBLIC OPINION IF IT APPEARED UNESCO WOULD HEAR COMPLAINTS AGAINST CERTAIN STATES, BUT NOT AGAINST OTHERS.

4. COMMITTEE SUGGESTED FURTHER IT SHOULD RECOMMEND TO EXBD THAT SECRETARIAT AND COMMITTEE NEED MUCH MORE SPECIFIC CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING RECEIVABILITY OF COMPLAINTS; THAT ITS PROCEDURES SHOULD BE BETTER HARMONIZED WITH GENEVA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, INCLUDING MORE FREQUENT EXCHANGES OF VIEWS, INFORMATION, AND DISCUSSION OF GOALS; THAT ABSOLUTE DISCRETENESS SHOULD GOVERN ALL PHASES OF HANDLING COMPLAINTS; AND EMPHASIZED THAT COMMITTEE WAS NOT A COURT TO JUDGE POLITICAL SYSTEM, BUT SHOULD CONSIDER ONLY SPECIFIC COMPLAINTS WITHIN ITS COMPETENCE, AND ALWAYS WITH PURPOSE OF FOSTERING HUMANITARIAN GOALS OF UNESCO.

5. LOCAL PRESS HAS ALSO SHOWN SOME INTEREST IN COMPLAINTS BEFORE COMMITTEE, AND REPORTED THAT ANDRE ALMARIK WAS IN PARIS AND HOPED TO APPEAR BEFORE COMMITTEE DURING LAST SESSION ON SEPT. 24.
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PAGE 03 PARIS 27706 221506Z

6. AS US NOT MEMBER OF COMMITTEE, DEL. WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR SESSIONS AND REPORT OCCURANCES.
RUSH

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